

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 225

INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EG, PLO, SY

SUBJECT: GOE AND FATAH ATTACK ON ZUHAYR MUHSIN

1. ALL THREE CAIRO DAILIES FEBRUARY 19 FRONT-PAGE STATEMENTS BY UNNAMED "RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL" (I.E., FONMIN'S OFFICE DIRECTOR USAMA AL-BAZ) AND FATAH'S CAIRO OFFICE DIRECTOR RIBHI AWAD, REPLYING TO ALLEGED STATEMENT BY SA'IQA'S ZUHAYR-MUHSIN ON SUBJECT OF AIN JALLUT BRIGADE. NEITHER WE NOR LOCAL WIRE SERVICE OFFICE CAN FIND ANY TRACE OF MUHSIN'S STATEMENT, BUT FROM THE REPLIES WE ASSUME HE MUST HAVE CHARGED, OR AT LEAST IMPLIED, THAT GOE SENT AIN JALLUT BRIGADE TO LEBANON AS EGYPTIAN TOOL TO FUEL THE FLAMES OF LEBANESE DISPUTE AND UNDERMINE SYRIAN PEACE-MAKING EFFORTS.

2. GOE AND FATAH STATEMENTS CONSTITUTE STRONGEST PERSONAL
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ATTACK ON ZUHAYR MUHSIN THAT WE CAN RECALL COMING FROM

CAIRO. GOE SOURCE (MFA'S AL-BAZ) SPEAKS OF MUHSIN'S STYLE OF LYING AND DECEITFULNESS AND HIS NON-REPRESENTATION OF PALESTINIAN OPINION; HE IS A BA'ATHI AGENT AND MOUTHPIECE. "RIBHI AWAD HAD CONVEYED TO EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES A REQUEST FROM ARAFAT, IN HIS CAPACITY AS PLO COMMANDER IN CHIEF, THAT SOME UNITS OF THE AIN JALLUT BRIGADE, TOGETHER WITH PROVISIONS, BE SENT TO LATAKIA." AL-BAZ STRESSES THAT HIGHEST LEVEL OF SARG, PRESIDENT ASAD HIMSELF, HAD AGREED TO THIS. THEREUPON "THESE UNITS WERE NOT SENT TO LEBANON FROM EGYPT; LIKEWISE THEY ARE PURE PALESTINIAN FORCES." AL-BAZ DESCRIBES MUHSIN AS INSANE MOUTHPIECE LYING TO COVER UP HIS TREACHEROUS CONSPIRATORIAL POSITION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

3. RIBHI AWAD IS QUOTED AS CONFIRMING AIN JALLUT BRIGADE WAS SENT TO LEBANON ON ARAFAT'S ORDERS. HE REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT HE WISHED MUHSIN HAD NOT STIRRED UP THIS ARTIFICIAL UPROAR ABOUT AIN JALLUT FORCES FOR EVERYONE KNOWS THEY ARE PALESTINIAN (I.E., NOT EGYPTIAN DOMINATED) WHO SOUGHT RESCUE THE RESISTANCE FROM THE DANGERS THREATENING IT, AS HAD OCCURRED UNDER LACKEY JORDANIAN REGIME (I.E., 1970) AND DURING OCTOBER WAR. PALESTINIANS HAD, HE STRESSED, OBTAINED ADVANCE APPROVAL FROM SYRIAN AUTHORITIES TO MOVE THESE FORCES. INSTEAD OF HIS ACCUSATIONS AND DEFAMATIONS, AWAD CONCLUDED, MUHSIN WOULD HAVE DONE BETTER TO SALUTE THE FORCES' COURAGEOUS ROLE.
EILTS

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